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PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Makoto KASHIWAYA, et al.

Appln. No. 09/534,207

Group Art Unit: 1762

Filed: March 24, 2000

Examiner: NOT YET ASSIGNED

For: CARBON LAYER FORMING METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents, excluding any cited copending applications, is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicants submit the following explanations:

Abstract 07132628 constitutes a concise statement of relevance of Japanese Patent 7-132628.

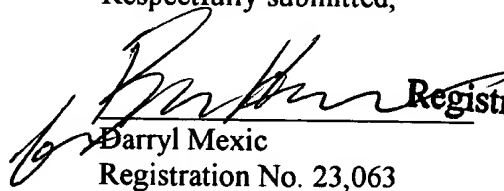
Abstract 63078761 A constitutes a concise statement of relevance of Japanese Patent 63-78761.

Abstract 5804272 A constitutes a concise statement of relevance of Japanese Patent 58-42472.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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